

new nurse came, and you can understand how I feel leaving here without knowing if the work is to be carried on when I go away. My Bible-woman is a great help to me, and is coming to Nagano with us. I feel sorry to take so many good workers from Kobe 'at one swoop,' but I think the English missionaries understand that those who have been supported with Canadian funds belong to the district set apart for the work of the Canadian Church. It is a great comfort to me to have dear Miss Paterson with me. I have lived alone for nearly two years now, and have been almost entirely alone all the time, my work taking up so much of my time that I could not associate much with the foreigners of the port. I think that I have been both a bad hostess and a bad nurse in letting Miss P. talk so much, but we have so many plans to discuss about future work in Nagano that it is often nearly midnight before we go to bed. We are having a photo. taken of all my staff before we leave Kobe, and, of course, I will send you one.

"Yours, etc.,  
"J. C. SMITH."

We are rejoiced to think Miss Smith is going to take the rest Mr. Foss told us last autumn she needed so badly even then, and the winter's work has been very heavy.

### Books and Periodicals Department.

*The Catholic Church of the Niagara Peninsula.* By Dean Harris. Toronto: William Briggs, Wesley Buildings.

This is another contribution to the early records of our country. It is a history of the missionary work of the Roman Catholic Church from the year 1626 to the present time. The first two chapters are taken up with a description of the Indians of the early period, when Jesuit fathers endangered and sometimes lost their lives among them. Then follow many chapters descriptive of much the same kind of heroic work under what is called "The Old Régime." With the capture of Fort Niagara and the advent of the U. E. Loyalists a new and completely different state of things began, and pioneer missionary work of a new kind set in for the priests of Rome. The gradual formation of settled parishes from large and unwieldy missions is described. The book is well written and handsomely printed (with illustrations), and is full of historic incidents of a general as well as missionary character, relieved here and there with the mother wit and Irish humor of the author.

*Mahomet and Islam.* By Sir William Muir, K.C.S.I., etc. London: The Religious Tract Society.

This is a small but complete book, well arranged so as to bring out the prominent features of the life of the false prophet of Islam. The author, having written a standard work on the "Life of Mahomet," is well qualified to give to the world the present abridged and rearranged work. Any one having but a hazy idea of Mahomet would get from this little book, in a few hours, a good and clear notion of his life and times. By the mere recital of facts, without any coloring, Mahomet appears as a cruel, licentious tyrant, strangely mingling with his crimes, and lust a religion which a wild fanaticism persuaded him was a revelation to himself from heaven.

Along with this the Religious Tract Society publishes a little book by the same author, called "The Beacon of Truth," and professing to be the testimony of the Koran (or

sacred book of Mahomet) to the truth of the Christian religion. Quotations from the Koran are followed by commentaries and remarks indicating the bearing that it has upon the Bible and the Gospel.

The Tract Society publishes also an excellent missionary book, "James Gilmour of Mongolia," edited and arranged by Richard Lovett. In it is the attempt, heroic in the extreme, of one man, single-handed, trying to convert a strange, wild people, whose dreary habits and modes of life he assumed in order, if possible, to win some to Christ. The trials and griefs and struggles (with but few successes to cheer him) that characterized his life form a pathetic tale; but they reveal a true missionary, willing to spend and be spent for the truth. He died a stranger in a strange land, but his words will live on among the Mongols who knew him, and will bear fruit probably in ways which it was not given to him to anticipate.

*Christ and His Friends.* Sermons by Rev. L. A. Banks. New York and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

This book presents a series of revival sermons, all taken from the Gospel according to St. John, beginning with "The Herald of Christ," "The Divine-Human Christ," and the various characters who came in contact with Him, Andrew, Philip, Nathanael, Nicodemus, and others, and continuing through various other subjects peculiar to St. John's Gospel, ending all with "The Way, the Truth, and the Life," "Christ and His Friends," and "The Conquering Christ." There are many anecdotes and illustrations in this volume of sermons that would be found useful for preachers or Bible teachers of any kind.

The Funk & Wagnalls Company also publish a suggestive little book by Dr. Rankin, president of Howard University, on "The Estrangement of Young People from Christianity."

(1) *The Sunday at Home*; (2) *The Leisure Hour*; (3) *The Boy's Own Paper*; (4) *The Girl's Own Paper*; (5) *Friendly Greetings*; (6) *The Cottager and the Artisan*; (7) *Light in the Home*; (8) *The Child's Companion*; (9) *Our Little Dots*. The Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row, London. The stories in the June number of *The Sunday at Home* are very good; some curious facts also are given in the article on the "Negro in South Carolina." *The Leisure Hour* has a pretty little tale in "Little Mr. Grigsby" and various articles of interest, such as "Rambles in Japan," "The Work of Sir John Franklin," "The Education of the Horse," etc. Many beautiful illustrations adorn its pages. *The Boy's Own* and *Girl's Own* are welcome literature to lads and lassies, and calculated to gladden their hearts. "Penny Tales for the People" are issued monthly by the Tract Society.

(1) *The Expositor* (one shilling); (2) *The Clergyman's Magazine* (sixpence). London: Hodder & Stoughton, Paternoster Row. *The Expositor*, we are glad to see, begins another series of articles from the pen of Sir William Dawson. The series is entitled "The Cursing of the Ground and the Revealing of the Sons of God in Relation to Natural Facts," and deals in this particular number with "Man before the Fall," "A new Patristic Fragment," the closing portion of the commentary of Victorinus, recently discovered by Prof. Haussleiter, of Greifswald, containing many passages favorable to the theory of the millennium, is described. *The Clergyman's Magazine* contains its usual points of interest and helps for clerical work.

*The Missionary Review of the World.* Funk & Wagnalls Co., 30 Lafayette Place, New York. Price \$2.50 a year. The June number of this most useful periodical has interesting articles on "The Indians of America," "Arabia and the Arabian Missions," "Madagascar in Two Different Aspects," and various other subjects of note. It has also a good supply of information from mission fields all over the world. The article by a Japanese Christian on the "Missionary Problem" places the need of a native ministry beyond controversy. It should be read by all promoters of foreign missions.